

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

At the outset, Applicants and Applicants' representative sincerely thank Examiner Tran of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for his time and consideration in participating in a telephonic interview with Applicants' representative on May 7, 2010. The Interview Summary issued on May 18, 2010, accurately reflects the substance of the interview.

During the interview, the Examiner and Applicants' representative discussed claim amendments that would be effective to overcome the rejections of record. At the conclusion of the interview, the Examiner advised that amending the independent claims to recite the subject matter of claim 39 would be effective to overcome the rejections of record. See Interview Summary.

By the above amendments, the claims have been amended in a manner consistent with the agreement made with the Examiner during the interview. Specifically, claims 4 and 39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the subject matter of canceled claim 39 has been incorporated into claim 1. Claim 1 has further been amended in a manner consistent with the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 39 therein. In light of the cancellation of claim 4, claims 5-8 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 31 has been amended for readability purposes. Claims 31 and 34 have been amended to depend from claim 29.

As noted above, the Examiner has agreed that the above claim amendments are effective to overcome the rejections of record. As such, for at least this reason,

withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is in order, and such action is respectfully requested.


From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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